में "रूरल डेवलपमेंट प्लान आउटले स्लैश्ड बाई रूपीज 500 करोड़" शीर्षक के अन्तर्गत प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि वर्तमान वर्ष की योजनाओं के लिए निर्धारित 3528 करोड़ रुपए की राशि में से 500 करोड़ रुपये की कटौती करने का निर्णय किया गया है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस निर्णय के परिणामस्वरूप किन-किन निर्माणाधीन परियोजनाओं पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव पड़ने की संभावना है और वे कहां-कहां चल रही है ?

ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जी० वेंकट स्वामी) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) और (ग) 1991–92 के दौरान ग्रामीण विकास योजनाओं के लिए संशोधित प्रावधानों को संसद के समक्ष रखे जा रहे 1992–93 के बजट प्राक्कलनों में दर्शाया जाएगा ।

Running of PSUs on Co-operative lines

*53. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY :
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have offered writing off all the liabilities of sick PSUs in the event of labour coming forward to run them on cooperative basis ;

(b) whether Government have prepared any blue print or tentative model cooperative structure of labour in general or for any sick PSU ; if so, what are the major features of the proposed set up ;

(c) whether Government are aware of the complexities of the structural problem including those relating to managerial personnel; and

(d) if so, what would be the quantum of Government's financial contribution, Banks contribution and workers' contribution etc. in this proposed set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) to (d) Some trade unions have suggested the setting up of workers cooperatives during the meeting of special Tripartite Committee held on 20-1-1992. Government is prepared to consider viable proposals for running sick PSUs through workers' cooperatives where the workers were willing. However, the details in this regard have to be worked out based on specific proposals from workers' co-operatives company-wise.

Foreign equity participation

*54. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH :
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI :

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently cleared certain proposals of foreign equity participation of more than 50 per cent since New Industrial Policy was adopted ; and

(b) if so, the details of these proposals and the amounts involved therein together with the conditions agreed upon in terms of technology use and export commitments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. J. KURIEN) : (a) and (b) As per the New Industrial Policy, Reserve Bank of India gives automatic approval for foreign equity participation upto 51% in high priority industries listed in Annex II,

to the Statement on Industrial Policy. Upto 20th February, 1992, under this facility, Reserve Bank of India has granted approvals in 42 cases involving 51% foreign equity participation totalling Rs. 130.79 crores. Approvals by the Reserve Bank of India under this facility are subject to the condition that dividend on foreign equity are met out of export earnings.

In addition to the proposals involving 51% foreign equity participation cleared by the Reserve Bank of India, Government have cleared 28 proposals involving foreign equity participation of more than 50% since the announcement of the New Industrial Policy and upto the end of January, 1992. Total foreign invertment envisaged in these proposals amounts to Rs. 86 crores. These approvals have also been subjected to the condition of balacing of dividend on foreign equity against export earnings.

The details of proposals approved by Government for foreign direct investment and/or foreign technology agreement such as the name of the Indian Company, name of the foreign collaborator, item of manufacture and nature of collaboration are published in the monthly newsletter of the Indian Investment Centre, copies of which are sent regularly to the Parliament Library.

Increase in the prices of essential drugs

*55. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report published in the 'Indian Express' dated 10th February, 1992 under the heading "The poor suffer as drug prices soar" ;

(b) whether it is a fact that there has been an abnormal increase in the prices of essential drugs and these drugs are not available in the market for the last one year ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that millions of people die in the country due to lack of treatment and for want of medicines that are too expensive ;

(d) if so, what effective steps Government have so far taken to bring down the prices and ensure the availability of essential drugs to the people at reasonable prices ; and

(e) whether Government have recently considered the question of pricing and licencing of drugs, and if so, what are the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Out of 21 formulations mentioned in the said News item, 14 are in the decontrolled category. The price increases in the case of price controlled formulations are due to rise in the input costs. In a situation of rising costs of inputs particularly of imported nature, corresponding increases in the prices of medicines are unavoidable if their availability is to be ensured. There are no reports regarding the non-availability of these medicines in the market for the last one year.

(c) State Governments have provided health and medical facilities through a net-work of hospitals at the district sub-divisional levels, community health centres, primary health centres and sub-centres. Health and medical services at these institutions are provided to the States free of cost or by charging nominal fees. These facilities have been continuously strengthened during the successive Plan periods.

(d) Price revisions of price controlled drugs/formulations are approved on the basis of recom-